

Thanks for your note. I am assuming you are talking about Black Hills Power, as MDU doesn't have any rate increase requests pending before the Commission.

The requested 26.6 percent increase is a big one. We are giving the request a great deal of scrutiny and have assigned five PUC analysts, a PUC attorney, and two outside consulting firms to this case. At the end of this process, we will have a good feel for what the truth is . . . how much is Black Hills Power earning, have they made prudent decisions, and what is a reasonable rate? Our decision will ultimately be based on the facts in evidence.

If you want to review some of the information submitted for this case, you can visit: <http://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2009/el09-018.aspx>. All new filings for this docket are placed here for your (and my) review. There will be a lot more information filed in the weeks ahead.

I'll see that your comments are added to the record of the proceeding. Thanks again for your email.

Thanks,
Dusty

Dustin "Dusty" Johnson
Public Utilities Commission
605-773-3201

-----Original Message-----

From: Mick
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2010 3:03 AM
To: Johnson, Dustin (PUC)
Subject: MDU Hike

Dusty, I'm appalled at MDU's request for 20-26% rate hike!!! They make so much money it's not funny! If they want to make more money, they can lower the wages of the board members. It's not like they would even miss it.

Whereas I cannot afford to pay any more for all utilities than I already am! This is a utility. Everyone needs it but many can't afford any raise in prices.

Please say no to any rise higher than 2%.

Thank you,
Fellow SDakotan M L Hansen
Rapid City, SD